

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. For use in a communications system, an apparatus
2 for wireless software download to a resource-constrained
3 wireless communications device capable of Internet access
4 comprising:

5 an auxiliary device including sufficient storage
6 for holding software to be downloaded; and

7 a connection between the wireless communications
8 device and the auxiliary device,

9 wherein the software to be downloaded is
10 retrieved from a remote server through a wireless
11 connection for the wireless communications device to the
12 auxiliary device and installed from the auxiliary device
13 onto the wireless communications device.

1 2. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the
2 auxiliary device lacks a connection to the remote server
3 independent of the connection between the wireless
4 communications device and the auxiliary device.

1 3. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the
2 wireless communications device lacks sufficient storage to
3 hold the software to be downloaded in addition to existing
4 software within the wireless communications device.

1 4. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the
2 software to be downloaded is retrieved by the auxiliary
3 device from the remote server through an Internet
4 connection provided by the wireless communications device.

1 5. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the
2 wireless communications device is a mobile telephone and
3 the auxiliary device is a personal digital assistant.

1 6. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the
2 software downloaded to the auxiliary device, when installed
3 on the wireless communications device, replaces software on
4 the wireless device at a time of the software download.

1 7. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the
2 software downloaded to the auxiliary device is retained
3 after installation on the wireless communications device
4 and reused for installation on other similar wireless
5 communications devices.

1 8. A communications system, comprising:

2 a wireless communications device capable of
3 Internet access via a wireless connection to a wireless
4 network;

5 an auxiliary device including sufficient storage
6 for holding software to be downloaded; and

7 a connection between the wireless communications
8 device and the auxiliary device,

9 wherein the software to be downloaded is
10 retrieved from a remote server through the wireless
11 connection for the wireless communications device to the
12 auxiliary device and installed from the auxiliary device
13 onto the wireless communications device.

14 9. The communications system according to claim 8,
15 wherein the auxiliary device lacks a connection to the
16 remote server independent of the connection between the
17 wireless communications device and the auxiliary device.

1 10. The communications system according to claim 8,
2 wherein the wireless communications device lacks sufficient
3 storage to hold the software to be downloaded in addition
4 to existing software within the wireless communications
5 device.

1 11. The communications system according to claim 8,
2 wherein the software to be downloaded is retrieved by the
3 auxiliary device from the remote server through an Internet
4 connection provided by the wireless communications device.

1 12. The communications system according to claim 8,
2 wherein the wireless communications device is a mobile
3 telephone and the auxiliary device is a personal digital
4 assistant.

1 13. The communications system according to claim 8,
2 wherein the software downloaded to the auxiliary device,
3 when installed on the wireless communications device,
4 replaces software on the wireless device at a time of the
5 software download.

1 14. The communications system according to claim 8,
2 wherein the software downloaded to the auxiliary device is
3 retained after installation on the wireless communications
4 device and reused for installation on other similar
5 wireless communications devices.

1 15. For use in a communications system, a method of
2 performing wireless software downloads to a resource-
3 constrained wireless communications device capable of
4 Internet access comprising:

5 connecting the wireless communications device to
6 an auxiliary device including sufficient storage for
7 holding software to be downloaded; and

8 retrieving the software to be downloaded from a
9 remote server through a wireless connection for the
10 wireless communications device to the auxiliary device; and

11 installing the downloaded software from the
12 auxiliary device onto the wireless communications device.

13 16. The method according to claim 15, wherein the
14 auxiliary device lacks a connection to the remote server
15 independent of the connection between the wireless
16 communications device and the auxiliary device.

17 17. The method according to claim 15, wherein the
18 wireless communications device lacks sufficient storage to
19 hold the software to be downloaded in addition to existing
20 software within the wireless communications device.

1 18. The method according to claim 15, wherein the
2 step of retrieving the software to be downloaded from a
3 remote server through a wireless connection for the
4 wireless communications device to the auxiliary device
5 further comprises:

6 retrieving the software to be downloaded from the
7 remote server through an Internet connection provided by
8 the wireless communications device.

19. The method according to claim 15, wherein the
wireless communications device is a mobile telephone and
the auxiliary device is a personal digital assistant.

20. The method according to claim 15, wherein the
step of installing the downloaded software from the
auxiliary device onto the wireless communications device
further comprises:

 replacing software on the wireless device at a
time of the software download with the downloaded software.